



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/625,108	07/22/2003	Robert James Howard	711-007US	9419

49767 7590 01/10/2007  
DEMONT & BREYER, LLC  
100 COMMONS WAY  
HOLMDEL, NJ 07733

EXAMINER
----------

CALLAHAN, PAUL E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2137

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	01/10/2007	PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/625,108

Applicant(s)

HOWARD ET AL.

Examiner

Paul Callahan

Art Unit

2137

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 July 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-38 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 10-20 and 32-38 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 1,5-7,21 and 27-29 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) 2-4,8,9,22-26,30 and 31 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 21 July 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>7-21-03</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

**DETAILED ACTION**

1. Claims 1-38 are pending in the instant application and have been examined.

***Drawings***

2. New corrected drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in this application because figures 5A, 5B, 5C, 6, 7A, and 7B are hand drawn and informal. Applicant is advised to employ the services of a competent patent draftsman outside the Office, as the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office no longer prepares new drawings. The corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The requirement for corrected drawings will not be held in abeyance.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1, 5-7, 21, and 27-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kaysen, US 6,839,776.

As for claim 1, Kaysen teaches an apparatus comprising: a first adapter (fig. 3, elements 12, 32, col. 2 lines 54-65), wherein said first adapter contains hardware for storing a unique identifier (fig. 3 element 33: Database, col. 3 lines 9-19); a second adapter col. 2 lines 16-17, fig. 2), wherein said first adapter couples a first port associated with a computer peripheral to said second adapter (fig. 3 element 29: Mating Connector), and wherein said second adapter couples said first adapter to a second port associated with a processor (fig. 1 element 14: Processor, fig. 2 element 30, Adapter); a first software module associated with said processor (col. 2 lines 20-37), wherein said first software module consults a list of identifiers within said first software module and wherein each of said identifiers is associated with a respective computer peripheral authorized for use with said processor (col. 2 lines 43-52); and means for enabling communication to and from said computer peripheral under control of said processor (col. 1 lines 8-15, col. 2 lines 1-10).

As for claim 5, Kaysen teaches the apparatus of claim 1 wherein said unique identifier comprises a serial number (col. 2 lines 43-53).

As for claim 6, Kaysen teaches the apparatus of claim 1 wherein said unique identifier comprises a peripheral type (col. 2 lines 43-53, col. 3 lines 1-8).

As for claim 7, Kaysen teaches the apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a second software module associated with said processor, wherein said second software module: retrieves said first unique identifier from said first adapter; compares said first unique identifier with said list; and enables said communication if a match of said unique identifier is found in said list (col. 2 lines 20-26, 35-37).

As for claim 21, Kaysen teaches an apparatus comprising: a computer peripheral comprising a first port (fig. 3 element 29: Mating Connector, element 12: Peripheral, col. 2 lines 54-64); a host computer comprising a second port (fig. 1 element 14: Processor, fig. 2 element 30: Adapter); a first adapter (fig. 3 element 12, 32, col. 2 lines 54-65), wherein said first: adapter contains a first hardware for storing a unique identifier (fig. 3 element 33: Database, col. 3 lines 9-18); said first hardware; a second adapter (fig. 2 element 30: Adapter), wherein said first adapter couples said first port to said second adapter (Fig. 3 element 29: Mating Connector), and wherein said second adapter couples said first adapter to said second port (fig. 1 element 14: Processor, fig. 2 element 30: Adapter); a first software module associated with said host computer (col. 2 lines 20-37), wherein said first software module consults a list of identifiers within said first software module and wherein each of said identifiers is associated with a respective computer peripheral authorized for use with said host computer (col. 2 lines 43-52); and a second hardware for enabling communication to and from said computer peripheral under the control of said host computer (col. 1 lines 8-15, col. 2 lines 1-10).

As for claim 27, Kaysen teaches the apparatus of claim 21 wherein said unique identifier comprises a serial number (col. 2 lines 43-53).

As for claim 28, Kaysen teaches the apparatus of claim 21 wherein said unique identifier comprises a peripheral type (col. 2 lines 43-53, col. 3 lines 1-8).

As for claim 29, Kaysen teaches the apparatus of claim 21 further comprising a second software module associated with said host computer, wherein said second software module: retrieves said first unique identifier from said first adapter; compares said first unique identifier with said list; and enables said communication if a match of said unique identifier is found in said list (col. 2 lines 20-37).

***Allowable Subject Matter***

5. Claims 2-4, 8, 9, 22-26, 30 and 31 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

6. Claims 10-20 and 32-38 are allowed.

7. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The closest prior art in the field, Kaysen, fails to teach the combination of

features of the claimed invention as set forth in the following claims, particularly including:

As for claim 2, the apparatus of claim 1 wherein said first adapter comprises a first keyed connector and said second adapter comprises a second keyed-connector, and wherein said first keyed-connector and said second-keyed connector are keyed to each other. Claim 3 is dependent on claim 2 and is therefore allowable on that basis.

As for claim 4, the apparatus of claim 1 wherein said first adapter is destroyed when removed from said computer peripheral.

As for claim 8, the apparatus of claim 7 wherein said second software module: stores information indicative of not finding a match of said unique identifier in said list; and generates an email indicative of not finding a match of said unique identifier in said list. Claim 9 is dependent on claim 8 and is therefore allowable on that basis.

As for claim 10, The arrangement of the peripheral port ("first port"), first and second adapter, and the network port ("fourth port") where the adapters are connected to one another and to the peripheral and network port, all in combination with the other claim limitations particularly including the first hardware found in the first adapter for storing a unique identifier. Claims 11-20 are dependent on claim 10 and are therefore allowable on that basis.

As for claim 22, the apparatus of claim 21 wherein said second hardware is contained within said first adapter.

As for claim 23, the apparatus of claim 21 wherein said second hardware is contained within said second adapter.

As for claim 24, the apparatus of claim 21 wherein said first adapter comprises a first keyed connector and said second adapter comprises a second keyed-connector. Claim 25 is dependent on claim 24 and is therefore allowable on that basis.

As for claim 26, the apparatus of claim 21 wherein said first adapter is destroyed when removed from said computer peripheral.

As for claim 30, the apparatus of claim 29 wherein said second software module also stores information indicative of not finding a match of said unique identifier in said list; and generates an email indicative of not finding a match of said unique identifier in said list. Claim 31 is dependent on claim 30 and is therefore allowable on that basis.

As for claim 32, the use of adapters that comprise keyed-connectors, in combination with the other claim limitations. Claims 33-38 are dependent on claim 32 and are therefore allowable on that basis.



***Conclusion***

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The following US Patent documents teach systems of peripheral access that are pertinent to the applicant's disclosure:

Rosenow et al.	5,483,596
Challener et al.	6,754,826
Lien et al.	5,386,567
Olarig et al.	6,032,257
Noldge	US 2004/0098604 A1
Arato	5,202,997
Gates	5,299,314
Traw et al.	6,009,527

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Paul E. Callahan whose telephone number is (571) 272-3869. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 9 to 5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Emmanuel Moise, can be reached on (571) 272-3865. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is: (571) 273-8300.

PEC

12-30-06



EMMANUEL L. MOISE  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER